

Brownfields Job Training Grants; apprenticeship; partnership formation and support; One-Stop Center service support ...

The objective of the Brownfields Job Training Grant Program is to recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed individuals from brownfields-impacted communities in full-time sustainable environmental employment.

EPA has announced the availability of FY 2009 funds and solicits applications from eligible entities and non-profit organizations to

provide environmental job training projects focused on brownfields assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment activities.

Eligible nonprofit organizations include any corporation, trust, association, cooperative, or other organization that is operated mainly for scientific, educational, service, charitable, or similar purpose in the public interest; is not organized primarily for profit; and uses net proceeds to maintain, improve, or expand the operation of the organization. **Workforce Investment Boards that meet these criteria may be eligible nonprofit organizations.** Public and nonprofit private educational institutions are eligible to apply. However, nonprofit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are not eligible to apply. For-profit or proprietary training organizations or trade schools are not eligible to apply.

Applications must be postmarked by October 15, 2008, 5:00 pm.

Full background and application requirements may be found at:

<http://www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm#EPA-OSWER-OBLR-08-10>

The following is an excerpt from the application package on **Criterion 5 -- Community Involvement and Employer Partnerships.**

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on the extent:

- Efforts have been made to collaborate with brownfield assessment and cleanup grantees, contractors, and/or brownfield site owners in the targeted community; efforts have been made to enhance and foster future employment for job training graduates in the targeted community. If applicable, please provide letters of support for any commitments these organizations have made to assist with your training program (e.g., providing on-the-job training or hiring graduates). (5 points)
- Early steps were taken during the development of the application to notify and involve the community (e.g. public hearings, forums, advertisements) about the proposed project? (5 points)
- Efforts were made to partner with local community groups, labor unions with apprenticeship programs, Workforce Investment Boards, and academic institutions located in or near the brownfield community to provide non-environmental training; each of these partners will add value and support to the proposed job training program where EPA funding cannot be used (e.g., life skills

training, pre-employment training, GED preparation, child care, academic enhancement, placement assistance, counseling, transportation assistance); the proposed project will ensure trainees are job-ready. If applicable, please attach letters of support from partners. Letters should indicate commitments these organizations have made. (5 points)

- Efforts have been made to partner with the state and/or Tribal government environmental office to facilitate the placement of graduates in remediation work. (5 points)

- The employer community (e.g., local businesses, environmental contractors, brownfield site owners) has been involved in the development of the proposed job training program (e.g., curriculum development, advisory councils, apprenticeships, and mentoring). If applicable, please provide letters of support from prospective employers. (5 points)